

Official indoor base ball guide containing the constitution, 1926

SPALDING'S INDOOR BASE BALL Playground Ball "Kitten" Ball "Serve Us" Ball

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N--:,:: o.' .10R. Single Stick Drill:- ' No- 14. Tr peze, 'Long -Horse and . : *':^ I2. Idi"an
ci . D.t.. Blla an'd 'o ' h ' , ' r Rope Exercses , - - No. 221.lian-iPulley WeDub ,u Be!
s a . No. 40- Indoor and Outdoor Gym. - ' No. 24R. Dumb Bell Exerci3ses Nt. 52K^.
Pyram.id. Bulding : . , rL * 73R. Graded CalistlrlicS and Dumb No, 56R. Ground Tumbling
and Tum- - - t t " ' ' .-. . Bell Drills ' : . : ; bling for Amateurs - . . , ' " ~ , ' : ' . ' -! .1 ' ' : ' : ; -- ."
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The Spalding style has diamond shaped spaces: " " : _1- : . " - ' - . - " - ' POCKET SIZE.
^ . , . : t / 'No. 2. Board cover, Spalding :style, 22 games..... . Each,\$0.50 ' *': i :-
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OFFICIAL Indoor Base Ball Rules

Introduction

Origin of Indoor Base Ball

Hancock's Indoor Base Ball Rules

RULE I. The diamond is laid at one end of the hall, leaving room for - ' the catcher, who always plays close behind the batsman. The bases (except the home plate) are 1/2 feet square, made of can- vas, half filled with sand or other similar substance. The home ; plate is of rubber and is one foot square. Each side of the dia- mond is 27 feet long, and a base is placed in each corner and: need not be fastened to the floor. The distance from home to second base, and from first to third base, is 385 feet. The , pitcher's box is 7 x 3 feet, the nearest line of said box to be 23 feet from the center of home base. The batsman's box (one. : to the left and one to the right of the home base) shall be four - feet long and three feet wide, extending one foot in front of and three feet behind a center line through the home base, with its . . nearest side distant six inches from the home base, the outlines . to be marked on the floor. When a game is played in a large armory or other large build- - ; ing the diamond may be laid out with 35-foot base lines, the front line of the pitcher's box to be 30 feet from the center of the home plate. All other dimensions to be the same as when using . the 27-foot base lines; RULE II. THE FOUL LINE. The foul lines must be drawn in straight lines from the outer corner of the home base, along the outer edge of the first and third bases to the boundaries of the ground, so that the bases ' shall come within the diamond.

_ : : * . " . ' ' ' ~ . . , ' , : . - . ' . * - " ' ' . a : ' ' i ' . . ' .. SPALDING'S ATHLETIC LIBRAi- -p.
7 ; ball shall not take more than one step, but shall not be restricted . : ; ' : as to curving the ball, although the arm must be swung parallel . ' vi/^; . - - with the body.. - He shall not make more than one stel in the act of delivering :: - i - -the ball. He shall hold the ball before the delivery fairly in . : . ; front of his body and in sight of the umpire. :: : When the Armory game is played on a large diamond with 35- ' foot base lines and 30-foot pitching distance, the

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pitcher shall. -; 1 :take his position as described above, but can heel with one or both feet a line drawn across the box i8 inches from the rear end of said box and shall not take more than one step in the . i -i-- r act of delivering the ball. He shall hold the ball before delivery - i fairly in front of his body and in sight of the umpire. ' : ' '4 ,NOTE.-In the preliminary moves of the pitcher the arm does not have ; ::; >' 2:' to be swng parallel with the body, but only on the final swing, when deliv- t ering the ball. . RULE. VII. THE GAME, - A game shall consist of nine innings to each contesting club 5:'!'- " except that, if the side first at the bat scores less runs in nine . : "'.' : innings than the other has scored in eight innings, the game shall . . - : . then terminate; or, if the side last at bat in the ninth inning -; ; .): scores the winning run before the third man is out, the game - . ' . shall terminate. 'RULE VIII. A TIE GAME. ; -^: ^ . ' If, the .score be a tie at the end of the ninth inning to each: ::!1 : ; , *-side, play shall be continued only until the side first at bat shall t.. : have scored one or more runs than the other side in an equal : - . . ' number .f innings, or until the other side shall score one or more runs than the side first at bat. ::A!:-: . - '~ 'RULE IX. ... A FORFEITED GAME. : ~: f - ^A forfeited game shall be declared by the umpire in favor l' -:i.' of the club not in fault, at the request of such club, in the fol- . owing cases: . A ,ts; it 2 l_ j 4 i ,f q ' i , < _ , wr , -a *.tj ' ,

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tions on the field for the observation of the plays that they are to judge. ' ' ' _:!); . . . , ' (e) No. 1 shall decide on and call all balls, strikes, blocks, 'i!!'~ ~ dead balls, balks, illegal deliveries, fair and foul balls, ground . i . .' hits, illegal hits, all questions arising at home plate, and shall *!; call play and time and take a position behind the catcher. ?'55 ' (f) No. 2 shall judge all base plays excepting those at home '~? ; plate and shall take a position about ten feet back of the base line' ~()' midway between home and first, or home and third bases, or: ?'i?': where he can get the best view of the play. No. 2 is also to. - doobserve the pitcher's delivery so as to be sable to properly notify ', : ,tNo. 1 if requested of him, on the question of the pitcher properly - i i.i:w: dheeling theba back line, as provided in the rules. He should also ~!:/ ~ observe whether or not the foul tips are properly caught-that .. hits, before touching the floor, so as to assit No. 1 if requested l py ad f him. b t c i:7s ~ (g) The umpires shall be sole judges of the play, and discus- :i; - sion will only be allowed on correct interpretation of the rules :zand aot on any optional decision. All such discussions are a ; - whrestricted to the two captains. o(h) The two umpires may change positions at the end of any ?::',, full inning.. !:!' ~ (i) In case an umpire for some reason cannot decide a play, ::::'~ he shall refer to his colleague. (j) The umpires must keep the contesting nines playing con- stantly from the commencement of the game to its termination, '| i .allowing such delays only as are rendered unavoidable by acci- i?:<->dent or injury. The umpires must, until the completion of the p r game, require the players of each side to promptly take'their) positions in the field as soon as the third man is put out, andl ca: :?,must require the first batter of the opposite side to be in his l position at the bat as soon as the fielders are in their places. T HOW TO UMPIRE-A new book in the Spalding Athletic Library series toy . :Billy Evans of the American League staff, although written for the outdoo game contains many suggestions that will be of use to the indoor official, So addition to interpretations of the playing rules for the outdoor games An

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invaluable to the player and spectator as to the umpire. Postpaid, 25 cents, - . - invaluable to the player and spectator as to the umpire. Postpaid, 25 cents-

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... ..' . i ' . ' SP4LDINT's ATILETIC LIBRARY. 1 When a hit ball is partially or wholly stopped by a fielder in AN: _ ;-. motion, but such player cannot recover himself in time to handle 1 the ball before the striker reaches first base. Aj : |When a ball is hit with such force to a fielder that he cannot handle it in time to put out the batsman. -1 ti' trWhen a ball is hit so slowly toward a fielder that he cannot ~- :t yhandle it in time to put out the batsman. H;".- That in all cases where a base-runner is retired by being hit : by a batted ball, the batsman should be credited with a hit. t;4.SEC. 3. In the third column should be set down the number A of runs made by each player during the game. 1A- SEC. 4. In the fourth column shall be set, down the number of X . - . . opponents put out by each player. When a batsman is called out. for a foul strike, or when he fails to bat in the proper order, the put-out shall be scored to the catcher. In all cases of out for . * ;r interference or running out of line, the put-out shall be credited S\In . to the player who would have made the play but for the action | of the base-runner or batsman. s i. SEC. 5. The number of times the player assists shall be set down in the fifth column. An assist shall be given to each player who handles the ball in assisting a put-out or other play of the :^ kind. An assist should be given to the player who makes a play 3 il- . -. in time to put a runner out, even if the player who could complete 4--. the play fails through no fault of the player assisting. SEC. 6. An error should be given in the sixth column for each misplay which allows the batsman or base-runner to make one or - ; more bases when perfect play would have insured his being put .;- ^ out, except that "wild pitches," "bases on balls," or illegal pitched balls, balks or passed balls, all of which comprise battery errors, shall not be included in this column. E& a' ^An error shall not be scored against the catcher for a wild i--.2 rthrow to prevent a stolen base, unless the base-runner advances an extra base because of the error. No

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error shall be scored against a fielder who attempts to complete a double play, unless the throw is so wild that an additional base is gained. , c. . S , ' ' . S era~~~~~

SECTION I. The score made in each inning of the game. SEC. 2. The number of two-base hits made by each player. SEC. 3. The number of three-base hits made by each player. SEC. 4. The number of home runs made by each player. SEC. 5. The number of hits made off each pitcher. SEC. 6. The number of times the pitcher strikes out the opposing batsmen. SEC. 7. The number of times the pitcher gives bases on balls. SEC. 8. The number of wild pitches charged to the pitcher. SEC. 9. The number of passed balls by each catcher. SEC. IO. The time of the game. SEc. II. The names of the umpires.

Implements of the Game

SPALDING'S ATHLETIC LIBRARY. 21 Implements of the Game THE BALL. The ball will be found to possess properties of a peculiar nature, which, after careful experimenting, have been proved to be best adapted to the sport. It is of a compact substance, 17 inches in circumference, weighs 88% ounces, has a white cover, and, while lively, . it is so made as to do no damage to objects surrounding the field. THE BAT. The limit of size of the bat is 2%. feet long and 1% inches in diameter at the largest pa't. The weight is not limited, but the material used is wood possessing great strength, as accidents are liable to occur should the bat break. Bats of different qualities of wood are made so that selections as to style and weight may be made accord- ing to individual taste. THE BASES.; The bases are half filled with sand or other heavy substance so they will remain in place on the floor, unless grasped by the player in running or sliding to the base. They are made of white canvas, 15 inches square, and are not attached to the floor, but placed loosely on a marked spot to which it should be returned whenever displaced. The home base is of rubber, one foot each way, and is also placed on a marked square. SUITS. Each club should be properly uniformed with natty suits, consist- ing of shirt. knee pants. stockings, belt, and shoes. The pants should either be padded at the knees and hips, or the -; regular adjustable knee-pad used to prevent actual contact of these : parts of the anatomy with

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the floor. j SHOES. All shoes worn must have rubber soles; those with corrugated rubber having been found the best. MATS. Where bases lie near a wall. padded mats should be stood up - opposite, against which the players may strike when running or sliding

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Official Playground Ball Rules

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Classified Rules for Indoor Base Ball

' . " - l . . " , * . ' ' ' _ . ' ' , ' * . * ' . - - * . " I SPALDING'S ATHLETIC LIBRARY. - 31 Classified Rules for Indoor Base Ball DEFINITIONS. ; : Base Line.-Direct line between home and first, first and second, ; l i * - ~second and third, and third and home. ' . : food Ball.-One legally delivered by pitcher, over the plate, and be- ; , tween the knees and shoulders of the batter. : Bad, Ball.-Not over plate. between knees and shoulders of batter. Fair -Ball.-Batted ball striking within diamond or on foul line. : Foul Ball.-Batted ball striking outside foul line. Foul 'lip.-Foul ball hit by batter not higher than his head. Illegal Ball.-Sent to batter by pitcher not entirely in box, or by pitcher ; not heeling line with both feet prior to delivery,

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or if pitcher takes more than one step in delivery. Dead Ball.--Pitched ball striking batter..
Balk.--Motion by pitcher to deliver, or holding to delay. E Blockc Ball.-Batted or thrown ball
stopped or held by outsider.' Illegal Hit.-Fair hit ball batted when any part of batsman is
upon{X ground outside his box. ~ Not in Play.-After an illegal hit, foul hit ball not caught,
dead ball :l ;,' ~ or base runner struck by a fair hit ball, the ball is not in play until held by
the pitcher in his box. 'l ' -Shall be called for- STRIKES. E ,', ~(1) Ball struck at and not hit.
(2) Good ball legally delivered, not struck at. (3) Foul tip caught. (4) Batter intentionally
interfering-with legally delivered good Y : - - * ball. ',{' : (5) First foul ball hit before first
strike. A. Batter is out- OUTS. (1) On third strike caught before touching ground or any
object. (2) If hit by ball on third strike. (3) On third strike, if man on first and less than two
outs. t ~ : ~ (4) If third strike is made by intentional interference with ball. - , - ((5) If after
tyo strikes, a foul ball hits the batter before '-', touching floor, wall or fixture. ? L '~ - (6)X
On an illegal hit. ; -i' (7) If he bats out of turn and makes a fair hit, or reaches-' _-^ ~ ' first,
provided error is discovered before ball is pitched : -;i . .. to next, batter.'((8) If not in
position one minute after he is called to bat by umpire. (9) On attempt to hinder catcher's
fielding, or intentional foul hitting. ' *.an d B. Base runner is out- l. Referring to man who
has just batted. l ' (1) If fielder legally holds ball on first base before runner .: , . . ' "arrives.
>, ', " ,, - * ^' ", " If_-r.:c".?A ' - - rr . i?. ^.. ^. , . , * . . b '

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Playground "Kitten" Ball

Playground Ball Rules Known as Kitten Ball and Diamond Ball

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SPALDING'S ATHLETIC LIBRARY. 39 . :-'~ . * RULE VI. . A game shall be declared forfeited by the umpire for the following A causes: SECTION 1. Failure of opponents to appear. !v. J"1 rSEC. 2. Failure of opponents to put their team into the game at the s.'*; l~time set for the game to begin. SEC. 3. Failure of a team to be upon the field, or, being upon the | field, fails to begin the game within one minute after the umpire has called play at the hour appointed for the beginning of the game. Xi ;; - -SEC. 4. If, after the game has begun, one side refuses or fails to t ' - continue playing, unless such game has been suspended or terminated l by the umpire. - RULE VII. -;^ l't~ . ,The base runner shall not have a substitute run for him, except by consent of the captains of the contesting teams. l ~~f ' A BALK IS: RULE VIII. .SECTION 1. Any motion on the part of the pitcher to deliver the - :-~;i ~ ball to the batter without so doing. SEC. 2. Holding the ball by him so long as to delay the game un- necessarily. SEC. 3. All Balks are called and decided by the umpire. SEC. 4. If, with one or more runners on bases, the pitcher, in the act of delivering the ball to the batsman drop the ball, either intention- Ai- - - ally or accidentally, the umpire shall call it a "balk," and advance run- . ner or runners. No penalty shall be imposed if, with no one on bases, the pitcher drop the ball while delivering it to the batsman. - Penalty:- Base runners advance one base. AN ILLEGAL DELIVERY Is: RULE IX. SECTION 1. The pitcher standing in position and making motion to : deliver the ball without having it in his possession. SEC. 2. On an illegal delivery, one ball shall be called on the bat- ter, but base runner shall not advance. SEC. 3. If, with no one on bases, the pitcher deliver the ball while off the rubber, the umpire shall call a "ball" whether it goes over the ; plate fair or not. If, however, the batsman strikes at such illegally delivered ball it counts either for a strike or whatever play may follow. RULE X. A Dead Ball is a ball delivered by the pitcher to the batter, which touches any part of the batter's clothing or person while in his posi- S ---- ~

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tion, providing the batter does not intentionally allow the ball to strike : 'i5.~ ~ him, the ball not being struck at. A Dead Ball shall be called a ball. NOTE-If the batter intentionally get in the way of a legally pitched ball he shall be called out, and in case there is a runner on the base he shall not be allowed to advance on that ball. : a RULE XI. SECTION 1. A Block Ball is a batted or thrown ball that is stopped or handled by any person not engaged in the game. SEC. 2. Base runners may advance one base on a block ball. .- i'3: ^< ^-A ^ 5 ^ "; ,'. %.'.: ^<- ' .. ^ . *'- ' ' .. ^ :a^ ' ; .-w . ' '-'" '*;'K^.:J:/ ~ 12----'. .- . , - /-S~~~~~4

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SPALDING'S ATHLETIC LIBRARY. 41 After the first inning the first batter in each succeeding inning is F the player following the man who completed his full time at bat in the |iF ~ inning before. "Time at bat" means a full time at bat. Two strikes or one, two, or three balls, or one strike and three balls, for example, is not a full "time at bat." If a batter has but one strike in the first inning and the third hand be put out while he is at bat, he becomes the first batter in the following inning, not having completed his full time i; -- -at bat in the inning previous. In such case, any balls and strikes called in the previous inning do not count when he assumes his time at bat in the next inning. RULE XVI. If the umpire calls a game at any time after four innings have been completed, the score shall be that of the last equal innings played, except that if the side, second at bat shall have the winning score in an unequal number of innings, or before the completion of the unfinished inning, at least one run more than the side first at bat, the score of the game shall be the total number of runs each team has made. No exception to this rule. If the score at the end of the first half of the fourth inning, or any subsequent first half of an inning, is 1 to 0 in favor of the team second at bat, the latter wins. RULE XVII. A BALL NOT IN PLAY In case of an illegally batted ball, a balk, foul hit ball not legally caught, dead ball, interference with the fielder or batsman, or a fair hit ball striking a base-runner or umpire before touching a fielder, the ball shall not be considered in play until it be held by the pitcher standing in his position, and the umpire shall have called "Play." Note each of these specifications: The umpire rules that a base-run- ner could advance when another runner had been retired

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for interfer- ence. The first runner should have been held at the base which he occupied until the ball had been thrown to the pitcher and the umpire had given the word to resume play. The ball goes out of play when the interference takes place and annuls all that had taken place since the play began. The umpire should announce "Play," as if he were announcing it at the beginning of a game. RULE XVIII. A strike is recorded against a batter when: SECTION 1. A Pitched Ball is struck at by him without it touching his bat. SEC. 2. He hits a foul not caught on the fly unless two strikes have been previously called. SEC. 3. A Legally Delivered Ball passes over the plate, between the batter's shoulders and knees, and is not struck at. SEC. 4. A Pitched Ball at which the' batsman strikes but misses, and which touches any part of his person. Base-runner cannot advance. SEC. 5. A Bunt is any attempt on the part of the batter to block the ball with his bat. Bunts are not allowed, and batters attempting to bunt shall be called out. NOTE-A Chop is not considered a bunt. SEC. 6. A Foul Tip is a strike.

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i:5::-' ~ SPALDING'S ATHLETIC LIBRARY. 45 SEC. 14. If a coacher at third physically assists a base-runner at third, or a base-runner who is rounding third for home plate, the umpire shall declare such base-runner out. SEC. 15. If the batsman interferes with a play being made at home plate. SEC. 16. If, when advancing or forced to return to a base, while the ball is in play, he fails to touch the intervening base or bases in the regular or reverse order, he may be put out by the ball being held on any base he failed to touch, or by being touched by the ball in the hands of a fielder in the same manner running to first, except ball be delivered to bat by pitcher before the fielder holds it on base or touch the base-runner with it. SEC. 17. Definition of a "Forced Play." A force-out can be made only when a base-runner legally loses the right to the base he occupies by reason of the

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batsman becoming a base-runner, and he is thereby obliged to advance. No runner can be forced on the base paths except the batsman becomes a base-runner. For instance, with runners on, say, all of the bases, the runner on third suddenly decided to steal home and the runner on second moves up to third base and touches it. The runner, who had been on third, however, decides that he cannot make home safely, and returns to third base. He is legally entitled to do so, while the runner who had come up from second will have to hurry back to that base the best way he can. The runner is always entitled to return to the base he held originally-always with the possibility of being put out by being touched with the ball until that time when the batsman forces all runners immediately preceding him by becoming a base-runner. Until the batter starts a force play there is no force play. RULE XXVI. The Base-Runner shall return to his base without liability to be put out: SECTON 1. If the umpire declares any foul not legally caught. SEC. 2. If the umpire declares an illegally pitched ball. SEC. 3. If the umpire declares a dead ball, unless it be also the fourth ball, and' he be thereby forced to take the next base. SEC. 4. If the person or clothing of the umpire while stationed back of the bat, interfere with the catcher in an attempt to throw. SEC. 5. If the umpire be struck by a fair hit ball before touching a fielder; in which case no base shall be run unless necessitated by the batsman becoming a base-runner, and no run shall be scored unless all the bases are occupied. SEC. 6. If the umpire declare the batsman or another base-runner out for interference. 9: SEC. 7. If the coacher intentionally interfere with a thrown ball. SEC. 8. In any and all of these cases the base-runner is not required to touch the intervening bases in returning to the base he is legally entitled to. RULE XXVII. The umpire shall declare the batsman or base-runner out, without waiting for an appeal for such decision, in all cases where such players be put out in accordance with any of these rules. An appeal must be made to the umpire when a runner "cuts a base" either in trying for a long hit, or in returning to the base that he held originally. The umpire may see the failure to touch a base, but he must not rule on it unless players of the team in the field have been

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"Serve Us" Ball

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ty-d --'i ' -SPALDING'S ATHLETIC LIBRARY. - both young and old. are playing the game they will enjoy the zest of competition and the exercise of their wits to achieve . points, at the same time that they receive excellent physical benefit without the severe physical endeavor which is de- manded from so many games which necessitate hard work to comply with their rules and achieve their points. The first tryout of "Serve Us" ball was given by the officers of the New Haven Army Hospital. Tentative rules had been ; drawn up and the many who were interested were present to see how the new game was going to result. Where improve- ment was necessary it was made, and after the rules were finally agreed upon a test was given at the conference of .- . :. the Recreation Division of the National War Work Council . ' !!:.' of the North Eastern Department at Cambridge, Mass. :a'. "Serve Us" ball met with favor immediately. ; Since then the game has been played with great success at seven national districts, which include the distribution of the ; forces of the Army and Navy, and all important points at "": which men of both services are stationed. After the signing of the armistice "Serve Us" ball began . :~-.?.R- ..to be taken up at once at. industrial plants whose employes ; had been in the service and who were fond of the new A|- - pastime. After work in the evenings and during the noon hour "Serve Us" ball is one of the most popular recreations of the men who have tried it and appreciate it. .1:.- It may be played outdoors or indoors. There are three variations to it, and it is possible to play it on any size aim --4 .floor, if a gymnasium or hall is used. An outdoor court may be laid out to the dimensions which are compatible . with the extent of the ground area, conforming, of course, to proportionate measurements as they are

indicated by .- ! the rules. - . . . A. i: . . : tti'..., -.'.';L;a'--; - S-- l'- ' *s ;: t 0 by Ad -me
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Official "Serve Us" Ball Rules

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Official "Serve Us" Ball Rules "Serve Us" ball may be played by men and women,
boys and girls. ;'~ - RULE I-PLAYING SURFACE. Section 1. The playing court shall be
rectangular, free from obstructions, not more than 100 feet in length and 60 a, : feet in
width. Sec. 2. The court shall be marked by lines not less than i 2 inches in width, the
short lines called End Lines, the long lines called Side Lines. -, Sec. 3. A line shall be
marked parallel 'to the end lines,, 4 feet from the center of the side lines in each court.
Sec. 4. When game is played indoors, on a smaller space, : the boundary lines shall be
eliminated, using the walls. Note-On a smaller court the 4-foot lane in the center is only
6 feet long, instead of running the width of the court. RULE' II -BALL. For:' 'The ball shall
be round, a rubber bladder covered by a canvas case. It shall be between 59 and 61
inches in circum- ci.-> ference, which is about 20 inches in diameter, and weigh be- tween
19 and 22 ounces. - RULE III-NET. The net shall be at least 6 feet wide and reach from
center :-- -- of side lines on one side to center of side lines on other side. It shall be tightly
stretched, level and measure 9 feet from the top to the floor. Note-Two tennis nets (each
3 feet wide) tied together will answer the purpose. On single court nets (36 feet long) or
double court nets (42 feet long) may be used.; :!~. ~RULE IV-TEAMS.. Section 1. Teams
shall be composed of ten players*; if more, equal numbers on a side, one of whom shall
act as captain. .. . Seven players can be used on small court. Sec. 2. Substitutes may take
the place of a player by reporting to the Referee. *Any number may be played on a team,
provided each side has the same ; ;,?.; . number of players.

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